

Message Text

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53

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-11 COA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 CG-00 SWF-02

DOTE-00 IO-14 INT-08 EA-11 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 FMC-04

JUSE-00 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /196 W
----- 121039

R 030753Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7620
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS HELSINKI 1311

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, EFIS, FI, SU, SW, DA

SUBJECT: LOS: FINLAND TO ESTABLISH SPECIAL FISHING
ZONE OFF FINNISH COAST

REF: HELSINKI 924 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND HAS FORMALLY
ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO ESTABLISH 12 MILE WIDE
FISHING ZONE OFF ITS COASTS. THE GOF SAYS THAT ZONE
WILL NOT IMPINGE UPON TERRITORIAL WATERS OF FOREIGN
STATES. IT POINTS OUT THAT NEW FISHING ZONE WILL
PLACE FINLAND IN SAME POSITION REGARDING WIDTH OF
FISHING ZONES AS, FOR INSTANCE, SWEDEN AND THE USSR.
BECAUSE OF NEED FOR PARLIAMENTARY ACTION, ZONE WILL NOT
BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL SOME TIME AFTER SEPT. 15. END
SUMMARY.

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2. THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS RECENTLY NOTIFIED THE FOREIGN MISSIONS IN HELSINKI THAT FINLAND PLANS TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL FISHING ZONE OFF THE FINNISH COAST. THE TEXT OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE ATTACHED TO THE NOTE OF NOTIFICATION IS GIVEN BELOW.

3. QUOTE. THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND DECIDED ON 6 JUNE 1974 TO PRESENT TO PARLIAMENT A BILL REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL FISHING ZONE OFF THE FINNISH COAST. THE FISHING ZONE WOULD BE 8 NAUTICAL MILES WIDE COUNTED FROM THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA OR 12 NAUTICAL MILES COUNTED FROM THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE INNER TERRITORIAL WATERS. HOWEVER, THE ZONE DOES NOT IMPINGE UPON THE TERRITORIAL WATERS OF FOREIGN STATES. IN THE GULF OF FINLAND IT DOES NOT EXTEND ACROSS THE BORDER DEFINED IN THE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN FINLAND AND THE SOVIET UNION REGARDING THE DELIMITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND IN THE GULF OF BOTHNIA IT DOES NOT EXTEND ACROSS THE CENTRAL LINE OF THE GULF AREA. THE ESTABLISHING OF THE FISHING ZONE WOULD PLACE FINLAND IN THE SAME POSITION AS E.G. SWEDEN AND THE SOVIET UNION. SINCE 1 JANUARY 1974 THE FIRST-MENTIONED STATE APPLIES A FISHING ZONE AROUND ALL ITS COASTLINE EXTENDING 8 NAUTICAL MILES OUT FROM ITS TERRITORIAL WATER LIMIT OF 4 NAUTICAL MILES, AND THE LAST-MENTIONED STATE HAS A TERRITORIAL WATER LIMIT OF 12 NAUTICAL MILES WHICH, AT THE SAME TIME, DEFINES THE FISHING LIMIT. THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE ZONE IS, ON ONE HAND, TO RESERVE THE AREA FOR FINNISH FISHERMEN, AND, ON THE OTHER HAND, TO REGULATE FISHING SO AS TO PRESERVE THE FISH STOCKS AVAILABLE. ACCORDING TO THE BILL, THE OTHER BALTIC SEA STATES WILL BE GRANTED A TRANSITION PERIOD OF TWO YEARS TO FISH IN THE ZONE TO BE ESTABLISHED. AFTER THAT DATE, SEPARATE AGREEMENTS HAVE TO BE CONCLUDED FOR CITIZENS OF FOREIGN STATES TO BE PERMITTED TO FISH IN THE FISHING ZONE. THE GOVERNMENT OF FINLAND PRESUMES THAT NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING THE CONTINUANCE OF FISHING TRADITIONALLY UNDERTAKEN BY ESPECIALLY SOVIET AND SWEDISH VESSELS AFTER THE YEAR 1976 COULD BE INITIATED IN GOOD TIME BEFORE THE SAID DATE. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE RIGHT GRANTED THE INHABITANTS OF THE

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OTHER NORDIC STATES TO PRACTISE NON-COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL FISHING OFF THE FINNISH COAST WILL BE PRESERVED ALSO WITHIN THE FISHING ZONE. END QUOTE.

4. PARLIAMENT IS IN RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15 SO THE FISHING ZONE WILL NOT BE ESTABLISHED UNTIL AFTER THAT DATE.
KREHBIEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, TERRITORIAL WATERS, TWELVE MILE LIMIT, FISHING GROUNDS, FISHING LIMITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HELSIN01311
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740176-0957
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740778/aaaacoqi.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: HELSINKI 924 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: FINLAND TO ESTABLISH SPECIAL FISHING ZONE OFF FINNISH COAST
TAGS: PBOR, EFIS, FI, SU, SW, DA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005